Mountain Weather Forecast

Southwest Highlands

Including Ben Nevis, Glen Coe and the rest of Lochaber, Argyll including the Isles, Loch Lomond, Trossachs and Arran

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Friday 20 Oct 2023 until 23:59 on Saturday 21 Oct 2023

Forecast Issued on Friday 20 Oct 2023 at 03:48 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: Medium for timing of drier weather for Friday. High for unsettled weather over the weekend and early next week, but low for daily detail and extent of rain.

Headline for Friday 20 Oct 2023: Very windy with rain and snow in the morning, drier away from the northeast in the afternoon

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 20 Oct 2023

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
Medium Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Low Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy Rain	Light rain	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Light snow
Precipitation probability					
60%	40%	30%	20%	10%	30%

Forecast for Friday 20 Oct 2023

Weather: Cloudy in the morning with outbreaks of rain; some heavy a first, with higher summit sleet and snow north of the Central Belt. The afternoon will be mostly dry but some patchy rain or summit snow continuing across the Trossachs and eastern Argyll. Some brighter skies developing across northern Argyll and southern Lochaber in the afternoon but staying cloudy elsewhere with outbreaks of rain and summit snow developing in the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance for most of the area, but 50% across the far north and the northern Argyll coast

Low Cloud and visibility: Widely poor in extensive cloud down to 600 to 900 metres throughout. Much improved visibility in the far north where cloud breaks in the afternoon, and occasionally the western Argyll coast further south.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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Forecast for Friday 20 Oct 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	68/82 E	68/84 E	53/68 E	56/71 E	53/67 E	51/64 E	48/60 NE
900	57/74 SE	53/69 E	47/65 E	43/58 E	36/49 E	32/44 E	28/38 E
600	71/82 E	64/77 E	58/72 E	50/63 E	38/50 NE	37/48 NE	31/41 NE
300	22/33 E	21/32 E	34/52 E	25/40 E	19/30 NE	18/27 NE	16/24 NE
Glen	19/29 N	13/27 NE	17/33 NE	15/32 NE	13/28 NE	13/29 NE	9/20 NE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
1300	-1/-12	-2/-13	-2/-13	-3/-15	-4/-15	-4/-15	-3/-13
900	2/-7	2/-7	2/-7	1/-8	-0/-9	-0/-9	0/-8
600	6/-3	4/-4	4/-4	3/-5	2/-5	2/-6	2/-5
300	8/3	7/2	7/1	6/1	5/0	5/0	5/0
Glen	10/7	9/7	10/6	9/5	7/4	7/3	7/4
Freezing Level*	1500m	1200m	1100m	800m	700m	700m	900m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View
Widespread upland severe gales with storm force winds on the summits will lead a risk of being blown over. Combined with a lowering freezing level this will result in severe wind chill. Drenching conditions in any rain at first. Surfaces at height will become icy as it turns colder.

Forecast for Saturday 21 Oct 2023
Weather: Remaining unsettled and cloudy with further periods of rain this mainly across the east of the area. Snow will fall above 800 metres until early afternoon. Remaining windy with strong to gale easterly winds at height, this leading to significant wind chill.

Maximum wind: Easterly 40 to 50 mph, but gusts nearer to 50 to 60 mph across the higher tops of the Nevis ranges

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 50%, best chance across the west in the morning

Low Cloud and visibility: Widely poor visibility in extensive cloud down to 600 to 900 metres by afternoon. Good visibility in the west in the morning.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 6 rising to 10 Celsius
At 800m: Plus 1 rising to 4 Celsius
Freezing level: 1000 metres rising above summits later in the day

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